THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI). (a) and (b) Presently, there is no mechanism with the Government to rate hospital according to their facilities, infrastructure and technical manpower. However, a Task Force has been set up with a view to promote India as a health destination for persons across the globe, so as to gainfully utilize the health care expertise and infrastructure available in the country. Identification of the list of hospitals/institutions having standard facilities has also been entrusted to the Task Force.

(c) and (d) Details in regard to number of Private Hospitals/Hospital beds and doctor-patient ratio in various State Government Hospitals, State-wise, are not maintained Centrally.

Oral Health Survey

†945. SHRI PK. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dental Council of India had conducted 'Oral health survey' at national level;

(b) if so, the detailed report of the survey;

(c) whether half of the population of the country does not have access to dental treatment; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to protect people from dental problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Dental Council of India has conducted an Oral Health Survey covering the following dimensions of oral health:

i. Prevalence of oral health problems;

ii. Fluoride levels in drinking water;

iii. Eating habits affecting oral health;

iv. Dental cleaning practices.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

v. Awareness and knowledge of people on factors affecting oral health; and

vi. Treatment-seeking behaviour of people for their oral health problems.

(c) and (d)At present, the dentists population ratio in India is 1:22,500 against the WHO recommendation of 1:75,000.

Health hazards due to cell phones

†946. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether towers of cell phones have become health-hazards to the people in the vicinity of these towers;

(b) if so, what kind of risk are posed by it to the human health;

(c) whether a research have been conducted by the Ministry of Health in this regard; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to conduct such research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) According to ICMR, currently no conclusive data exist to give a reason for concern about the health effects based on studies carried out in this regard. Further, according to Department of Telecommunications, there is no substantial evidence of any health hazards to people due to the expansion of wireless and other networks.

Mismanagement at the Maternity Hospital, R.K. Puram and Safdarjung Hospital

947. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether doctors are generally not available at the maternity hosptial, R.K. Puram;

(b) whether due to this, all the operational cases are transferred to Safdarjung Hospital;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.